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function checks to see if any "triggering" events have occurred when a user performs a particular task. The Automatic Notification function defines what exact type of event will become a triggering event, and also defines what will be the triggering action, once the triggering event occurs, and stores this information in a database.

IN THE CLAIMS: ✓


Please replace claims 1, 13, 32, 36, 41, 47, 48, 49, 50, 54, 58, 61, 64 and 65 as follows:

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1. (Amended) A computerized active file system, comprising:
 - a memory circuit for storing data;
 - a communications port that is in communication with a network, said communications port being configured to transmit and receive data over said network; and
 - a processing circuit that is configured to control the flow of data between said memory circuit and said communications port; said processing circuit also being configured to control said memory circuit so as to operate as a file server; said processing circuit being further configured to automatically cause a notification message to be sent to said network upon the occurrence of at least one predetermined triggering event pertaining to the operation of said file server, wherein said at least one predetermined triggering event and its associated type and content of automatic notification message are configurable under the control of an auto-notification computer program routine and wherein said automatic notification message enables said file server to be used in workflow automation.
 13. (Amended) A method for operating a computerized active file system, comprising:
 - providing a file server having a memory circuit for storing data, a communications port for transmitting and receiving data over a network, and a processing circuit that controls the flow of data between said memory circuit and said communications port, said file server treating predetermined data groups as single file entities; and
 - automatically causing a notification message to be sent to said network upon the occurrence of at least one predetermined triggering event pertaining to the operation of said file server, wherein said at least one predetermined triggering event and its associated type and content of automatic notification message are configurable under the control of an auto-notification computer program routine and wherein said automatic notification message enables said file server to be used in workflow automation.


32. (Amended) A computerized active virtual file system, comprising:

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- a memory circuit for storing data;
 - a communications port that is in communication with a network, said communications port being configured to transmit and receive data over said network; and
 - a processing circuit that is configured to control the flow of data between said memory circuit and said communications port; said processing circuit also being configured to control said memory circuit so as to operate as a file server; said processing circuit being further configured to control the access rights over said network of a plurality of users to files stored on, or uploaded to, said file server, while providing an automatic notification message to predetermined of said plurality of users over said network when a triggering event occurs pertaining to the operation of said file server wherein said at least one predetermined triggering event and its associated type and content of automatic notification message are configurable under the control of an auto-notification computer program routine and wherein said automatic notification message enables said file server to be used in workflow automation.
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36. (Amended) A method for supporting a computerized file system comprising:

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- preconfiguring at least one triggering event in a computer program in communication with said computerized file system;
 - preconfiguring at least one associated action in said computer program, wherein said triggering event and associated action are related to the operation of said computerized file system and enable said file system to be used in a workflow automation;
 - monitoring said computerized file system with said computer program for the occurrence of said at least one preconfigured triggering event; and
 - initiating said preconfigured associated action with said computer program when said triggering event occurs .
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41. (Amended) A method for supporting a computerized file system that is part of an operating system comprising:

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- preconfiguring at least one triggering event in a computer program in communication with said operating system's computerized file system;
 - preconfiguring at least one associated action in said computer program, wherein said triggering event and associated action are related to the operation of said operating system's computerized file system and said triggering event and associated action enable workflow automation in said file system;
 - monitoring said operating system's computerized file system with said computer program for the occurrence of said at least one preconfigured triggering event; and

- B 6
- initiating said associated preconfigured associated action with said computer program when said triggering event occurs .
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47. (Amended) A method for directly supporting a distributed computerized file system, wherein said distributed computerized file system is accessible via the Internet, comprising:


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- preconfiguring at least one triggering event and preconfiguring at least one associated action, in a computer program in communication with said distributed computerized file system, wherein said triggering event and associated action are related to the operation of said computerized file system and enable workflow automation in said file system;
 - monitoring said distributed computerized file system, with said computer program, for the occurrence of said at least one preconfigured triggering event; and
 - initiating said preconfigured associated action with said computer program when said triggering event occurs .

48. (Amended) A method for supporting a computerized object system comprising:

- preconfiguring at least one triggering event and preconfiguring at least one associated action, in a computer program in communication with said computerized object system, wherein said triggering event and associated action are related to the operation of said computerized object system;
- monitoring said computerized object system with said computer program for the occurrence of said at least one preconfigured triggering event; and
- initiating said preconfigured associated action with said computer program when said triggering event occurs to enable workflow automation in said file system.

49. (Amended) A method for supporting a computer comprising a file server operating system, wherein said file server operating system comprises a computerized file system, wherein said file server operating system's computerized file system is stored in a table, wherein said method comprises:


- preconfiguring at least one triggering event, in a computer program in communication with said file server operating system's computerized file system, to enable workflow automation wherein said at least one triggering event optionally includes creating a file/object in said computerized file system, uploading a file/object in said computerized file system, downloading/exporting a file/object in said computerized file system, deleting a file/object from said computerized file system, editing a file/object in said computerized file system, moving a file/object in said computerized file system, copying a file/object in said computerized file system, renaming a file/object in said computerized file system, viewing a file/object in said computerized file system, accessing a file/object in

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- said computerized file system, changing access rights for a file/object in said computerized file system, or a combination thereof;
 - preconfiguring at least one associated action in said computer program, to enable workflow automation wherein said triggering event and associated action are related to the operation of said file server operating system's computerized file system, and wherein said associated action optionally includes sending an e-mail message, enforcing a constraint, archiving files/objects in said computerized file system, running a script, launching a program, or a combination thereof;
 - preconfiguring at least one associated group of users in said computer program wherein said associated group of users are associated with said triggering event and said associated action;
 - monitoring said file server operating system's computerized file system for the occurrence of said at least one preconfigured triggering event; and
 - initiating said preconfigured associated action with said computer program with regard to said preconfigured associated group of users when said triggering event occurs.


50. (Amended) A computerized active file system comprising:

- a computerized file system; and
- a computer readable medium, wherein said computer readable medium is in communication with said computerized file system, and wherein said computer readable medium comprises computer executable instructions for initiating a method comprising:
 - preconfiguring at least one triggering event;
 - preconfiguring at least one associated action, wherein said triggering event and associated action are related to the operation of said computerized file system and enable workflow automation in said file system; and
 - preconfiguring at least one associated group of users wherein said associated group of users is associated with said triggering event and said associated action;
 - monitoring said computerized file system for the occurrence of said at least one preconfigured triggering event; and
 - initiating said at least one preconfigured associated action for said preconfigured associated group of users when said at least one preconfigured triggering event occurs .


54. (Amended) A computerized active file system comprising:

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- an operating system wherein said operating system comprises a computerized file system;
 - a computer readable medium, wherein said computer readable medium is in communication with said operating system's computerized file system, and


wherein said computer readable medium comprises computer executable instructions for performing a method comprising:

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- preconfiguring at least one triggering event wherein said triggering event is related to the operation of said operating system's computerized file system;
 - preconfiguring at least one associated action, wherein said associated action is associated with said triggering event; and
 - preconfiguring at least one associated group of users wherein said preconfigured associated group of users is associated with said triggering event and said associated action;
 - monitoring said operating system's computerized file system for the occurrence of said at least one preconfigured triggering event; and
 - initiating said preconfigured associated action to enable workflow automation for said preconfigured group of users when said triggering event occurs.
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58. (Amended) A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing a method comprising:

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- preconfiguring at least one triggering event wherein said triggering event is related to the operation of a computerized file system;
 - preconfiguring at least one associated action, wherein said associated action is associated with said triggering event;
 - preconfiguring at least one associated group of users wherein said preconfigured associated group of users is associated with said triggering event and said associated action;
 - monitoring said computerized file system for the occurrence of said at least one preconfigured triggering event; and
 - initiating said preconfigured associated action to enable workflow automation for said associated preconfigured group of users when said preconfigured triggering event occurs.
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61. (Amended) A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing a method comprising:

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- preconfiguring at least one triggering event wherein said triggering event is related to the operation of an operating system's computerized file system;
 - preconfiguring at least one associated action, wherein said associated action is associated with said triggering event;
 - preconfiguring at least one associated group of users wherein said preconfigured associated group of users is associated with said triggering event and said associated action;
 - monitoring said operating system for the occurrence of said at least one preconfigured triggering event; and

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10
- initiating said preconfigured associated action for said preconfigured associated group of users when said preconfigured triggering event occurs to enable workflow automation.

64. (Amended) In a computerized active file system having a graphical user interface, a method of preconfiguring and performing a trigger, the method comprising:

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11
- displaying a group of trigger choices related to the utilization of a computerized file system comprising:
 - a set of events for a triggering event, wherein said set of events optionally includes creating a file/object in said computerized file system, uploading a file/object in said computerized file system, downloading/exporting a file/object in said computerized file system, deleting a file/object from said computerized file system, editing a file/object in said computerized file system, moving a file/object in said computerized file system, copying a file/object in said computerized file system, renaming a file/object in said computerized file system, viewing a file/object in said computerized file system, accessing a file/object in said computerized file system, changing access rights for a file/object in said computerized file system, or a combination thereof;
 - a set of actions for a triggering action, wherein said set of actions optionally includes sending an e-mail message, enforcing a constraint, archiving files/objects in said computerized file system, running a script, launching a program, or a combination thereof; and
 - a set of users for a triggering group of users;
 - selecting at least one triggering event;
 - selecting at least one triggering action associated with said triggering event;
 - selecting at least one triggering group of users associated with said triggering event and said triggering action;
 - receiving at least one signal indicative of said trigger choices;
 - configuring said trigger according to said trigger choices;
 - monitoring said computerized file system for the occurrence of said at least one triggering event;
 - initiating said associated triggering action for said associated triggering group of users to enable workflow automation in said file system.

65. (Amended) In a computerized active file system having a graphical user interface, a method of preconfiguring and performing a trigger, the method comprising: